

## Populus deltoides / Acer negundo / Boehmeria cylindrica Forest

COMMON NAME Cottonwood / Box Elder / False-nettle Forest

### SYNONYM

PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS Forest (I.)

PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS Deciduous forest (I.B.)

PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP Cold-deciduous forest (I.B.2.)

PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP Natural/Semi-natural (I.B.2.N.)

FORMATION Temporarily flooded cold-deciduous forest (I.B.2.N.d.)

ALLIANCE Populus deltoides Temporarily Flooded Forest Alliance

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 1

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Palustrine

### RANGE

#### Globally

*Populus deltoides* / *Acer negundo* / *Boehmeria cylindrica* Forest has been newly described based on data from the Congaree Swamp National Monument. Global distribution needs assessment but likely includes the Atlantic Coastal Plain from Virginia to Georgia.

#### Congaree Swamp National Monument

This forest type occurs in the southeastern portion of the park along the Congaree River.

### ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

#### Globally

*Populus deltoides* / *Acer negundo* / *Boehmeria cylindrica* Forest has been newly described based on data from the Congaree Swamp National Monument. Global environmental conditions await description but likely are similar to those described below.

#### Congaree Swamp National Monument

*Populus deltoides* / *Acer negundo* / *Boehmeria cylindrica* Forest occurs on well-drained loamy soils of levees of the Congaree River.

### MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

#### Globally

The globally abundant species are currently the same as the park-specific species listed below.

#### Congaree Swamp National Monument

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Tree canopy	<i>Populus deltoides</i>
Tree subcanopy	<i>Acer negundo</i> , <i>Acer saccharinum</i>

### DIAGNOSTIC SPECIES

#### Globally

The globally diagnostic species are currently the same as the park-specific diagnostic species listed below.

#### Congaree Swamp National Monument

*Populus deltoides*, *Acer saccharinum*, *Acer negundo*

**USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program**  
**Congaree Swamp National Monument**

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**VEGETATION DESCRIPTION**

*Globally*

The global description currently is the same as the park-specific description below.

*Congaree Swamp National Monument*

The fairly open to mostly closed canopy of this community is dominated by *Populus deltoides*. The well-developed subcanopy is dominated by *Acer saccharinum* and *Acer negundo*. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, *Planera aquatica*, *Celtis laevigata*, *Ulmus americana*, and likely other species

may be present in these strata as well. The shrub layer is very sparse and is composed of canopy and subcanopy species in addition to *Asimina triloba*, *Ilex decidua*, and likely other species. The sparse herbaceous layer is also low in species richness.

Among the species that may be present are *Chasmanthium latifolium*, *Pilea pumila*, *Leersia lenticularis*, *Carex grayi*, *Elymus virginicus*, *Carex bromoides*, *Matelea carolinensis*, *Sanicula canadensis*, *Cryptotaenia canadensis*, *Boehmeria cylindrica*, *Erechtites hieracifolia*, *Justicia ovata*, and others. Vine coverage is sparse as well, and among the species that may be present are *Toxicodendron radicans*, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*, *Smilax tamnoides*, *Bignonia capreolata*, *Vitis rotundifolia*, and *Mikania scandens*.

**OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES**

The exotics *Ligustrum sinense* and *Microstegium vimineum* are present in occurrences of this community.

CONSERVATION RANK                      G3G5

RANK JUSTIFICATION                      This community is apparently relatively globally secure.

DATABASE CODE                              C EGL007731

**COMMENTS**

*Congaree Swamp National Monument*

*Populus deltoides* as the strong dominant in the canopy is diagnostic of this association.

**REFERENCES**